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SUBJECT: JOINT WEEKA NO. 12

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MILITARY

Negative

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REPORTER

FORM 6-61 FS-439

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ACTION ASSIGNED TO:	ACTION TAKEN	
NAME OF OFFICER & OFFICE SYMBOL	DATE OF ACTION 4/11/62	DIRECTIONS TO RM/R

EXTERNAL - POLITICAL

1. Khrushchev Speech. In his first public pronouncement on foreign affairs since early December 1961, KHRUSHCHEV made a nation-wide TV and radio broadcast on March 16, two days before the Supreme Soviet elections. The foreign affairs portion of Khrushchev's speech seemed to throw little light on Soviet intentions, indicating no important movement in the Soviet positions regarding Berlin, disarmament, and the "anti-colonial struggle", mentioned in that order as major preoccupations of Soviet foreign policy. One of the transparent objectives of Khrushchev's speech, which became quite plain in the follow-up comment in the Soviet press, was to create the impression that the world military balance has been affected by the new "global missile," which Khrushchev claimed the Soviet Union has, and that US defenses have thus been outflanked. Press comment said that the Pentagon was "in a panic." The implication, of course, was that US negotiators should draw the appropriate conclusion and recognize that US bargaining power in disarmament negotiations has been adversely affected by the new weapon allegedly possessed by the USSR. At the same time, the Soviet press employed the counter-theme that Khrushchev was not trying to blackmail the West with his global rocket, but was simply trying to point out that disarmament is the only sure method of preventing war.

There was nothing in Khrushchev's speech directly bearing on the Sino-Soviet ideological debate.

One of the themes in Khrushchev's speech and in most Soviet public discussion about the March 18 Supreme Soviet elections was insistence that the Soviet political system is democratic and that Western, and especially US, democracy is simply a device for ensuring domination of "monopoly capital." This produced something in the nature of an anti-American campaign in the press. But this seemed to be focused on the Supreme Soviet elections and thus, in effect, was a defensive operation. So far there is no sign of this becoming part of a larger movement reflecting further tension in relations with the US.

2. Geneva Negotiations. The Soviet draft treaty as well as Gromyko's opening speech at the 18-nation disarmament negotiations were given extensive treatment in the Soviet press. On the other hand, Secretary Rusk's opening speech was virtually ignored. Although a few individual measures advanced by the US have been revealed gradually and usually one by one in critical articles during the course of the week, there has as yet been no comprehensive discussion of the US proposals in the Soviet press.

The general line taken by Soviet commentators and journalists is that USSR has presented a concrete and clear plan for the attainment of GCD while the US has side-stepped this goal, emphasizing partial measures instead. In addition, the Soviets have criticized US proposals for (1) not providing for the elimination of foreign bases in the first stage, (2) demanding control over armaments rather than control over disarmament, (3) ignoring Soviet superiority in missiles which is now especially pronounced with the advent of the "global missile", and (4) failing to specify the over-all duration of the disarmament process. In sum, it is argued that the Soviet draft treaty is the only one that has been tabled and that it must serve as the basis for further negotiations.

The Soviets have spoken approvingly of parallel negotiations on partial measures, constantly noting, however, that these should not interfere with the attainment of an over-all agreement on G.C.D. On nuclear testing, Soviet commentators have adamantly rejected Western demands for treaty provisions providing for international control and verification, arguing that national means are now adequate to detect all nuclear tests.

Although the Soviet press has mentioned the various informal meetings held outside of the conference room, reports have been devoid of any information regarding the nature of the issues discussed.

3. Outer Space. [redacted]

4. Algeria. The Soviet press at first reported the French-Algerian agreement briefly and cautiously, suggesting that only a cease-fire was involved and that it is questionable whether the agreement can be implemented. Following publication of Khrushchev's March 19 message to BEN KHEDDA, however, the Soviet press markedly changed its tone. Algeria became the main foreign subject in the Soviet press on March 20. A detailed summary of the agreement was given and it was hailed as an event of great international importance.

The agreement probably has many negative features from the Soviet point of view, in that it cannot be presented as a clear-cut defeat for the "imperialists" and gain for the Soviet bloc. Algerian independence is likely to have implications for the Soviet-Chinese ideological dispute with both sides seeking to use the development as justification for their ideological formulations on war and revolution. This factor may have been an important one in persuading Khrushchev to offer diplomatic relations to Algeria well in advance of the formal achievement of sovereignty by Algeria. The Chinese Communists, of course, recognized Algeria de jure several years ago. They might point to the Soviet delay in offering de jure recognition until after an agreement had been signed with the French as basis for charges of Soviet conservatism and lack of revolutionary spirit in supporting anti-colonial movements throughout the world.

5. Southeast Asia. The Embassy received a note from the Soviet Foreign Ministry on March 17 transmitting a statement accusing the US of violating the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Vietnam and interfering in South Vietnam's internal affairs. This statement was published in the Moscow papers the next day. This was followed by publication on March 20 of a statement by the DRV Foreign Minister Ung Van Khiet, dated March 15, calling for consultation with interested countries for finding effective measures for implementing the 1954 Agreements. However, there was no editorial comment or other follow-up material on Vietnam in the Soviet press.

The Soviet press thus far has not mentioned the fact that Dutch-Indonesian negotiations on West New Guinea have started in the US and that these were arranged through US efforts. The USSR is sensitive about all developments in the "anti-colonial" field and certainly will want to share in the credit if Indonesia succeeds in gaining West New Guinea from the Dutch.

6. Argentine Elections. The Soviet press reported the Peronista gains in Argentina in a manner which made this development appear as a US defeat and, presumably, a corresponding Soviet victory. An Izvestiya article on March 21 said quite plainly that the Communist Party of Argentina was allied with the Peronistas in the elections. Izvestiya also alluded to Peron's fascist coloration through a parenthetic explanation that Peron at present is in political exile in Madrid.

INTERNAL - POLITICAL

7. 99-44/100% Pure! The quadrennial election of a new Supreme Soviet took place on March 18 without incident, so far as one can judge by the Soviet press. There was no violence at the polls, and only one death -- that of Aleksandr Moyiseyevich MALUNTSEV, who expired on March 19 after having been elected a deputy to the Soviet of the Union from Omsk Central Election District.

99.95% of the eligible voters betook themselves to the polls, if the report of the Central Election Commission is to be believed (Pravda, March 21), and, of these, 99.385% voted the straight Party ticket. Notwithstanding, 746,563 voters cast their ballots against the candidates of the "bloc of Party and non-Party people" for the Soviet of the Union. The Georgian Republic was recorded as voting most nearly unanimously for the bloc's candidates for both chambers: 99.91% for the Soviet of the Union and 99.93% for the Soviet of Nationalities. (Esthonia, for which the comparable figures are 99.17% and 99.36%, recorded the least monolithic vote). Georgia's report of so high a "Da" vote may be simply a continuation of the tradition established in the halcyon days of STALIN; it seems most unlikely that the reported result takes full account of the strong negative reactions of many Georgians towards KHRUSHCHEV and Khrushchevism.

The III Party Program, adopted at the XXII CPSU Congress, says: "To improve the work of the Soviets and bring fresh forces into them, it is advisable that at least one-third of the total number of deputies to a Soviet should be elected anew each time ..." The one-third minimum has been well surpassed, as indeed it always was in Supreme Soviet elections, even before the principle was enunciated. The composition of both chambers appears to have been "renewed" by better than two-thirds.

There are some familiar, and some not so familiar, names among those of deputies to the Supreme Soviet elected in 1958 who have been "renewed" out in 1962. The list of discards is headed by former CPSU-CC Presidium members Ye. A. FURTSEVA, N. A. MUKHITDINOV, and A. B. ARISTOV, now Ambassador to Poland. Furtseva's disappearance from the Supreme Soviet does not necessarily mean that she will lose her post as Minister of Culture, since there is no requirement that a Minister must be a deputy and many of the members of the Council

of Ministers in fact do not sit in the Soviet parliament. But it will be surprising if she figures in the new Soviet Government.

The elimination of other once prominent figures involved the dropping of N. A. BULGANIN, the last of the "anti-Party group" -- if one excludes resilient old K. Ye. VOROSHILOV -- to hold a Supreme Soviet seat. Voroshilov was elected to the Soviet of the Union from Kashira Election District in Moscow Oblast, and the Central Election Commission's communique lists his occupation as "Member of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR." It will be interesting to see whether he is re-elected to the Supreme Soviet Presidium when the newly elected body constitutes itself. The Supreme Soviet by law must be convened within three months of election day.

Nikolai Ilyich BELYAYEV, once a full member of the CPSU-CC Presidium and a Secretary of the Central Committee; Aleksey Illarionovich KIRICHENKO, who enjoyed a meteoric career as Khrushchev's heir apparent; Leonid Georgiyevich MEL'NIKOV, a member of the "Large Presidium" created by the XIX Party Congress; and former Chairman of the KGB Ivan Aleksandrovich SEROV, are also among the discards.

Of the 175 full members of the Party's Central Committee, all but 17 have been elected to one or the other chamber of the new Supreme Soviet. Of the 17 not elected, 9 are diplomats, who customarily do not stand as deputies -- the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is represented only by the Minister, GROMYKO, and the First Deputy Minister, V. V. KUZNETSOV. Two of the 17 are honest-worker types (N. F. MANUKOVSKIY and V. V. YERMILOV). The remaining six include, together with Furtseva and Mukhitdinov: I. I. KISELEV, Director of the Gorkiy Automobile Plant, who, however, was elected a deputy to the RSFSR Supreme Soviet in 1959; F. D. VORONOV, Director of the Magnitogorsk Metallurgical Combine and briefly Chairman of the Chelyabinsk Sovnarkhoz (a post now held by candidate-member of the CC A. F. BORISOV); and two members who were deputies in the 1958 Supreme Soviet, but who have not been re-elected in 1962: A. G. KRYLOV, Director of the Likhachev Automobile Factory in Moscow, and A.M. RUMYANTSEV, Editor of the Prague-published international Communist theoretical journal "Questions of Peace and Socialism."

Among those elected for the first time to the Supreme Soviet are G. T. SHUYSKIY, Khrushchev's private secretary; P. N. FEDOSEYEV, Director of the Institute of Philosophy of the USSR Academy of Sciences; M. A. KHARLAMOV, former MFA Press Chief and now Chairman of the State Committee on Radio and Television, and N. R. MIRONOV, Chief of the CPSU-CC's Section on Administrative Organs.

All the full and candidate-members of the Presidium CC-CPSU, plus the five non-Presidium Secretaries, won in a walk, "with N. S. Khrushchev at their head."

Military representation (general officers, marshals and admirals) in the new Supreme Soviet remains at about 4% of the total deputies for both chambers.

To top it all off, one Ramaoz Gardionovich DUGASHVILI was elected from Telavskiy Election District in Georgia. He is surely no relative of him whom the world knows better as Stalin (Iosif Vissarionovich DZHUGASHVILI).

8. "Year of Hardship" for Moscow Jews. On March 17, 1962, the Jewish Sabbath, Yehuda-Leib LEVIN, Chief Rabbi of Moscow, announced to his flock that matzohs, the unleavened bread which plays an important symbolic role in the Jewish Passover, would not be available from commercial sources this year. He thus revealed and publicly confirmed what had already been known among Moscow Jews -- for the first time in Moscow under the Soviets, the regime had banned the commercial baking of matzohs for the Passover. (WEEKA No. 11, Mar.16, 1962).

Rabbi Levin gave members of the congregation detailed instructions on how to prepare matzohs at home in accordance with Jewish dietary laws, and declared that, since this was a "year of hardship" for Moscow Jews, they could relax their dietary laws somewhat and eat rice, buckwheat porridge, and other foods not ordinarily eaten during Passover.

9. Twelve Jews Sentenced to Death in Five Months. In Soviet Georgia, the death sentence has been pronounced against A. F. KLEYMANOV, described as "heading a group of plunderers of Socialist property" (Zarya Vostoka, March 17,1962). Kleymanov's trial is said to have been held in Kutaisi, Georgia, from September 20 to November 3, 1961. It had apparently not been reported earlier in the Tbilisi press. Kleymanov's group allegedly gained more than 280,000 (presumably new) rubles by illegal means.

Most Soviets will recognize the name Kleymanov as unmistakably Jewish. Zarya Vostoka does not state that Kleymanov's group had any direct connection with the recent trial in Tbilisi of a gold-trading and foreign currency ring, also headed by a Jew, M. A. KAKIASHVILI, who was sentenced to death on December 11, 1961. However, the Zarya Vostoka report succeeds in associating the two cases by stating in the same article that death sentences have been carried out against both Kakiashvili and Kleymanov.

Kleymanov's death sentence raises to twelve the number of Jews reported by the Soviet press in the past five months to have been sentenced to death following economic-crime trials. Although trial reports reveal that some non-Jews have also been involved in the same criminal economic activities as the Jews, only two of them have received the death penalty.

10. Campaign against Bribery and Economic Crimes. Economic crimes continue despite the imposition of stiffer penalties, including death for taking bribes "under especially aggravating circumstances" (WEEKA No. 9, March 12,1962), and in the face of death sentences for four currency speculators last month in Vilnius (WEEKA No. 7, February 16, 1962). A sprinkling of recognizably Jewish names appears in recent publicity about economic offenses.

Sovetskaya Belorussiya (March 17, 1962), begins an article on "The Golden Yoke" by noting that "first in Moscow and later in Vilnius, currency speculators were unmasked and sternly punished." Afterwards, the newspaper reports, several speculators voluntarily surrendered their ill-gotten gains to the authorities. One of these miscreants, an old miser named G. Ye. SUPRIN, it continues, had difficulty in persuading his daughter, Polina GERTSEVNA, and son-in-law, T. I. GINZBURG, to "remember" where they had sequestered his treasure. Suprin and his next-door neighbor, F. Sh. PALEY, are described as soulmates: the latter also

surrendered 1,000 gold rubles -- and they are united in their melancholy and lonely occupancy of similarly spacious and well-furnished houses, as well as regret over the corruption of their respective offspring. Baley's son was sentenced to be shot for running over two separate groups of pedestrians with an automobile he bought with illegal earnings. The article hopefully, but not convincingly, reassures potential repentants that "those who have voluntarily parted with their criminally acquired gold live and work in their accustomed places."

Meanwhile, in the RSFSR, Sovetskaya Rossiya (March 21, 1962), under the heading "Hand from Behind the Buffet," describes the operation of a ring of bribe offerers and takers in the restaurant of the Yaroslavskiy railway station in Moscow. The crookedness, it is stated, began with the heavy foam of too briskly poured beer. The resultant "economizing" on liquid left a surplus to be sold by employees for private gain. When the sale of beer in railway station restaurants was discontinued, the grief of the profiteers was assuaged by the discovery that cocoa and coffee could be watered and the extra portions sold privately, so long as restaurant manager Ivan Timofeyvich APET was kept bribed. When Apet was promoted to the position of manager of the Moscow Trust of Railway Station Restaurants, his successor, one GUSAROV, followed in his footsteps. The article concludes with ominous rhetorical questions as to why all this was allowed to go on under the noses of workers of the Ministry of Trade and the Restaurant Trust, how long the Ministry of Trade is prepared to tolerate this sort of thing, and whether it will not be possible to halt it "permanently" by bringing the offenders to book (a clear reference to the new death penalty for accepting bribes).

A story in Trud of March 21, 1962, tells about rottenness in the apple market. Trud reports on the current trial of twenty-four people by the Supreme Court of the Ukrainian SSR in Dnepropetrovsk. The culprits allegedly operated as a gang within the office of the local "Gastronom" (food store). Several apparently Slavic names are mentioned with only initials preceding them, but one KORETSKIY is exceptionally identified by his given name and patronymic: Lazar Aronovich. The apple racketeers are said to have made a profit of hundreds of thousands of old rubles by receipting for good apples as inferior and selling them at the price for their actual, higher grade. This case, like that of the Yaroslavskiy station restaurant workers, involves a possible death penalty under the bribery law, inasmuch as "more than 500,000 rubles were given as a bribe to workers of the Crimean Sovnarkhoz and to suppliers from other cities."

The regime appears to be genuinely concerned with the persistence of economic crimes and is attempting to combat them by publicizing the frightful punishment meted out to violators as well as proffering an amnesty to those who confess in time. The opportunity to point the finger at several Jewish culprits is apparently a welcome by-product.

MILITARY

Negative

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For the Charge d'Affaires a.i.

Boris H. Klosson

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